

"run with patience, the race that is set before us. Two ideas are contained here. It means patience and constancy.

What a glorious cloud of witnesses are looking on. Review the long list in Hebrews 11th chapter, and we find names which belong to all generations, and how many more might be added since the Epistle was written. The thought that we are watched in our career by those above, has in itself a peculiar power. "Soldiers," said Napoleon to his gallant men on the plains of Egypt, "from the top of those pyramids forty centuries look down upon you."

M.

Make Your Own Doctrine.

Making doctrine is one of the common practices of men, and has been in all ages. The reader will say that men should not make doctrine, but accept the doctrine of the Bible as they find it, neither adding to or taking away.

It is a very common occurrence to hear persons of the Tunker church holding up the views in certain commentators or some distinctive doctrine of some other religious sect. A word of caution seems expedient with regard to this matter.

As a rule commentaries are made to sell and the writer favors the church of which he is a member and his work becomes the standard of explanation of the scriptures to that sect. So if you oppose some of the distinctive doctrine of that church, it is possible that you will accept the very doctrine of the commentary on which said doctrine may be based.

The commentator draws a logical conclusion from the premise taken, but you do not, and therefore your premise and conclusion contradict one another. Therefore if you have a distinctive practice, you should find your own premise and make your own doctrine.

We have discovered that there are many persons and ministers in the several branches of the Tunker church who accept and are advocates of the Disciple doctrine of the organization of the church. This doctrine is that the church was founded on the day of Pentecost. The originators were driven to that conclusion to find grounds on which to justify their church practices. Thoughtlessly, hundreds of our own people have adopted the same made doctrine, when the logical sequences destroys a part of their own faith. We say *made doctrine* because the New Testament, does not give the date when the church was founded, and there is as much or more evidence to prove that it was organized at some other time before.

The Disciples fix the organization of the church at pentecost for the purpose of putting the examples of Christ under the Mosaic law. The preacher who places the organization of the church at Pentecost can not consistently talk about following the example of Christ. This doctrine of the organization of the church very effectually and logically puts away the Lord's Supper and the ordinance of washing the Saint's feet. That is just what that Pentecostal church organization doctrine was made for.

Now this is not written with the air of a brigand, dear reader, but for the cause of the Lord, and to caution you to be on your guard about doctrines that are not gospel truths, but conclusions drawn for the purpose of defending certain grounds taken to justify certain religious practices.

When *making doctrine* is the order, then by all means make your own doctrine if you wish to deal in such.

There is, however, no occasion for fixing a day on which the church was organized. What practical use can it be to us?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The notice that we would send the EVANGELIST for one year for one dollar in cases where the paper was paid for by another was intended for those who should hereafter subscribe in that way, and we have not obligated ourselves to refund to those who have subscribed heretofore.

This week we publish sister M. M. Sterling's essay for Master's degree, from Monongahela College, Pa. She read it June 29, 1887. At the same time, the degree of M. A. was conferred upon Mr. S. M. Smith, Rev. S. L. Parcell and C. L. Tilton, M. D. Sister Sterling has attained a very high standing in education.

A new extradition treaty is now under consideration by Congress. When it is completed there will then likely be less talk about going to Canada to escape punishment; and it will be no longer to this country a den of thieves.

At the present about fifteen thousand Christians gather in Jerusalem during the Passover or Easter season to worship, as pilgrims. If the ratio of increase continues it will not be long until Jerusalem will take on its old-time importance at the time of the Passover.

The translations of the inscriptions in pottery, prisms, etc., taken from the ruins of cities that flourished in Bible times continue and new corroborative evidence supporting the truths of the Bible is developed.

The church of England has an organization within it known as the Church Army, which recently sent three missionaries to India. The character of the army is similar to the Salvation Army. In the future we may expect that an army of this character will be organized in all the principal churches; for when one undertakes a new work the others will soon follow.

A strong argument for trine immersion is found in the fact that it would have died and been condemned and forgotten long ago if there was not more evidence for its practice than there is for other modes.

The *Free Discussion*, for January is out and the editor informed his readers in answer to a correspondent that he is a son of "Samuel Hummer, a first cousin of Abraham Hummer. My father lived at the foot of the Laurel Hill, or about 7 miles north of Gettysburg. My mother's maiden name was Heller." He still insists that he is the prophet of Malachi, in this language: "But Lewis O. Hummer is the last man on earth to lay claims to such a God-honored title as that of Elijah, the prophet of Malachi, without knowing it to be so, and knowing that he is able to defend his claims against the whole world. But for the present I do not expect to convince any but the 'wise virgins,' and the foolish virgins when it is too late; and the world at large will be thoroughly convinced when the earthquake is over and, ready to receive the 'law' at my hands, and the doctrine I teach." His peculiar teaching is that the Saints will gather at Jerusalem to meet Christ at his second coming.

The German Baptist church, of Pony Creek Kansas, have decided that the minister should make pastoral calls upon the members of his congregation, and that he should be paid for his services. The proposition will be sent to their District Meeting, and as it is a question of general interest it will likely be appealed to annual meeting for final decision.

The next general conference of the M. E. church will be held in New York City, next summer.

The Year-Book of the Free-will Baptist Church for 1888 shows the membership of that denomination to be 82,488—a decrease of 2,119 during the past year.

Brethren who contemplate writing upon the Lord's Supper might as well save their time. Those who have been attacked, fairness allows a reply. But a free-for-all discussion would not be beneficial to the cause or edifying. Those who are interested in the subject should give it a deliberate and prayerful study and write to develop the truth. It does not matter what you intend to do, or not to do—it is the truth that all should seek.

An exchange truly says:

"The most practical argument in favor of the prohibition law in Iowa, is that large numbers of poor men who formerly supported saloons now support their wives and children. That argument is simply invincible when set over against the false and absurd assumption that prohibition is an unwarranted abridgment of personal liberty. Then, too, the support given to homes shows a wonderful decline in the support given to jails and criminal courts. Governor Wm. Larabee, the able and honored governor of Iowa, in his late inaugural, pays a most glowing testimony to the benefits of prohibition in the state."

The Presbyterian church proposes to raise one million of dollars this year for the purpose of supporting its aged and infirm ministers. This is certainly a very creditable work.

The Safeguard is responsible for this item:

"A man who was spending money in useless and foolish indulgences, when taxed with his wrong doing, claimed that what he spent in this way would be so little, that if he should curtail all such expenses, and give everything he thus saved to the cause of Christ, the amount would be so small as to be hardly worth the giving. At length he was induced to make the trial, and he agreed that whenever he bought a cigar, or spent any money for other small indulgences, he would put by an equal amount to be used in the cause of Christ. True to his word he came around at the end of a month, looking rather mortified, and put over twenty dollars into the hands of his friend for religious purposes. His previous contributions had not averaged two dollars a month."

The *Christian Standard* makes these true remarks about society in the cities:

It is hard for sensible people to realize the utter silliness and maudlin imbecility of high-toned "society" in our cities. It has neither principles nor ideas of its own, but is a senseless echo of titled European society. As in all such cases we have succeeded in copying the foolishness and defects and missed the refinements and virtues, and only rendered ourselves contemptible in the eyes of our models. In some fashionable houses, even in Boston, libraries are made to order, and the books "fitted in" by the artisan for artistic effect. Neither guests nor member of the house is permitted to move one. It would spoil "the effect." In many families of the neoplutocracy ladies of the paleoplutocrats, whose fortunes have vanished, are employed to teach the inmates the mysteries of Mammondom and the law of ceremonial cleanliness as held by fashionable Pharisees. It is becoming the "fad" to employ some scapgrace Englishman to teach the sons and daughters the English "accent," that is, to parrot the nervous, inarticulate drawl of the English swells. If there were any possible physiological basis for it, one might suppose our fashionable society had softening of the brain.

A Kentucky legislator has undertaken to reform the marriage laws and has introduced the following bill in the Legislature of that state:

"All marriages with an idiot, lunatic, paralytic, pauper, vagrant, tramp, drunkard, gambler, felon, feeble minded person, or any one rendered physically helpless and unfit for the marriage relation, any person with violent temper, or who has for one year been a frequenter of an immoral house, or has been divorced for such causes."

In many parts of the country, a bill with such provisions would prevent many from entering into the marriage relation. There is great need of stricter marriage laws, but the scope of the above bill is rather extensive for the first.

Brooklyn, Iowa.

It is some time since a report of this arm of the church has been sent in. Our little band of brethren and sisters is still strong in the faith once delivered to the saints. We have opposition here, as well as elsewhere, and are struggling to promote the gospel of Christ in this part of God's moral heritage. Two were recently brought into the fold of Christ by baptism. We have started a prayer meeting and we

hope and pray that by the united effort of the little band of workers here, may make it permanent as the prayer meeting is the place where the spiritual pulse of the church is registered. According as the prayer meeting is lively with the life of the holy spirit, so will the church be living and full of energy and blessing. There the breath of heaven is breathed and there the life of God is pushed outward and through the whole body of Christ.

Bro. Palmer preached his farewell sermon last Sunday evening, and we would like to correspond with some minister in the brotherhood to preach for us.

DANIEL M. BAKER.

At Home.

We have returned from our revival work at North Liberty, O. The meetings continued one week. The result was no accessions to the church, but a revival of religious interest in the church and community.

We found in our effort in these meetings, that we have some very good workers in the Brethren church at North Liberty. May they grow still more in earnest in the Master's work, and thus lead others to work. Oh, God bless them!

We visit North Liberty and Ankenytown, in regular work, every two weeks. Each trip there, among brethren, friends, and hills brings us new experiences and interest in the Lord's work. This last trip, on our way home, we held a cottage prayermeeting at the home of our aged brother Abram Long, in Independence.

The old brother and sister are quite old. He is 84; she, 78. So feeble are they that they can not attend Sabbath services from home well in the winter. To meet with such aged veterans of the cross, in the evening of life, by their fireside, and see and hear how confident they are in hope of heaven; how they enjoy the association of brethren and friends, and how they still love to pour out the depths of their hearts in prayer, it can not otherwise but add to the encouragement of the young servant in his Master's work.

My young Christian friend, if you grow doubtful in your hope of heaven, seek the company of some aged Christian man or woman, look carefully at the contented expression in the face, and listen attentively to the words of heavenly assurance as they fall from shrunken lips. You will go away feeling much stronger in your faith. Such lessons you will find to be dearer to you and more firmly impressed upon your mind than many others. Look upon ripe, Christian old age as a heavenly revelation.

W. C. PERRY.

Ashland, Ohio.

Maitland, Pa.

I am at this writing at the home of Elder Josiah Brindle, pastor of the Brethren church at Maitland, in Mifflin County, Pa. According to arrangements made at this place a protracted meeting was commenced on the evening of the 4th. The meetings are well attended with a seeming good interest. Two have come out on the side of the Lord. Hope others will follow before the meeting closes. Eld. Brindle has passed through a hard fight

at this place, but as David of old, was well skilled in the use of the sling, and struck old Goliath on the head and killed him with his own sword. So our dear brother has wielded the sword of the spirit as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. God bless Eld. Brindle and the Brethren church at Maitland.

J. B. WAMPLER.

Campbell, Mich.

We have a faithful little class of members (30 in all) here. All seem to enjoy themselves in their new church home. I think many more are near the kingdom. We will have another little series of meetings soon. Bro. I. Kilhoffer came here and did some good preaching, with good results. Bro. Gilbert, of the German Baptist brethren preached here about one week. Brother G. spoke well, but no accessions to their church.

J. G. WINEY.

OUR CHURCH.

Bro. J. L. Kimmel will preach at Fair Haven next Lord's Day evening.

Bro. J. A. Miller will preach at the church near Glentford, O., next Lord's day.

Bro. John H. Knepper has changed his address from Shanksville, Pa., to Berlin, Pa.

Bro. A. M. Ridenour has been chosen pastor of the church at Auburn, Ill., another year.

Bro. D. P. Waybright asks that brethren stop at Bond, Kansas and preach, if they pass near that place.

Bro. Wm. Kiefer went to Bear Creek church, west of Dayton, Ohio, last Saturday to assist P. J. Brown in conducting a protracted meeting.

A brother desires to know what Brother Bashor is doing in southern California. It would be a satisfaction to many to hear from him.

A brother writes, when renewing his subscription, that he cannot and will not do without the EVANGELIST. Where there is such a will there is a way.

Bro. J. F. Koontz has taken charge of the little flock that our dear brother Joseph Bowman left at his death. May God help him to be a faithful steward.

Bro. Benj. Benshoff, writes that the church at Johnstown, Pa., is getting along as usual, Sunday school is doing well, and that they expect to hold a series of meetings soon.

Sister Julia A. Wood, of Brems Bluff, Va., writes that she has been confined to her bed with sickness. But we are glad to know that she is able to write again, and we hope she will soon recover.

The pastor of the Homer church, Henry Jacobs, has had sickness in his family the past week. Notwithstanding, he continued the protracted meeting, he commenced the other week. His children are afflicted with lung trouble.

Bro. Wm. Kiefer, of the Fair Haven Church, Ohio, is greatly rejoiced over the result of the late meeting. His son made the good confession under his preaching for whom he had long prayed that he might return to the Savior.

If there is to be work accomplished, it is to be done through human as well as divine efforts. God could put a man on the top of an Alpine peak, and have him preach one sermon that would convert the whole world; but that is not His way of doing things. God wants our hearts; —Moody.